Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 EB-11 IO-14 RSC-01

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USIA-15 INR-10 DRC-01 /187 W ----- 097904

PR 101410Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9855 INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN AMEMBASSY BAMAKO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS : EAID GV

SUBJECT: FOOD SUPPORT - GUINEA

REF: STATE 117030

1. GUINEAN MINISTER OF EXCHANGES, DR ALPHA OUMAR BARRY, WHO HAS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPPLY PROBLEMS, WAS VERY PLEASED WITH POSSIBILITY RECEIVING 5,000 MT CORN AS INITIAL USG RESPONSE DROUGHT RELIEF PROBLEM. BARRY SAID SHIPMENT OF FED CORN MENTIONED REFTEL ACCEPTABLE. GUINEA'S ONLY CONCERN IS THAT IS GIFT FROM UNITED STATES. HE ALSO ASSURED ME THAT SHIP WOULD BE ACCEPTED FOR OFF-LOADING IMMEDIATELY ON ARRIVAL AND SPECIAL EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO OFF-LOAD AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE.

2. I DID NOT ASK MINISTER BARRY FOR ASSURANCES THAT THERE WOULD BE NO "HARRASSMENT," SINCE DID NOT BELIEVE DEPARTMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REALLY INTENDED TO HAVE THIS QUESTION POSED TO GUINEAN GOVERN-

MENT. RE REFTEL PARA 5, IN ABSENCE SPECIFIC INFORMATION OR DETAILS ON VAGUE REPORTS FROM UNIDENTIFIED SOURCES CONCERNING PAST DOCK/POLICE PROBLEMS OF UNSPECIFIED NATURE OCCURRING AT UNDEFINED TIME, EMBASSY UNABLE COMMENT. HOWEVER, EMBASSY DOES KNOW THAT FOR PAST SIX MONTHS SINCE GUINEA GOVERNMENT INSTITUTED NEW CONTROLS AT PORT, THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE OR NO PILFERAGE. SHIPMENT OF OFFICIAL AND PERSONAL SUPPLIES FOR EMBASSY ARRIVE INTACT AS ORDERED. OTHER PERSONS IN CONAKRY REPORT SAME RESULTS. CAPTAIN OF AN AMERICAN SHIP WHICH OFFLOADED HERE IN DECEMBER REMARKED TO AMERICAN CONSUL HIS PLEASURE WITH LACK OF PROBLEMS IN OFF-LOADING. IN CIRCUMSTANCES, SEE NO REASON TO EXPECT THAT THERE WOULD BE ANY HARRASSMENT OF SHIP BRINGING GOODS WHICH GUINEANS SO VERY BADLY WANT AND NEED.

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